

**Amendments to the specification:**

On page 1, line 3, please amend the heading as follows:

Prior Art Background of the Invention

On page 1, line 20, please amend the heading as follows:

Advantages Summary of the Invention

On page 1, please amend the paragraph contained in lines 21-29 as follows:

The circuit arrangement of the invention for controlling the starting relay ;  
~~having the characteristics of the main claim,~~ has the advantage over the prior art  
that the starting event for the engine can be continued even if a chronologically  
limited voltage drop occurs at the starting relay. This has the advantage that  
even with a weak battery, as long as there is still enough energy to crank the  
engine, the engine can in fact turn over. This means that a trip to a repair facility  
can at least be postponed.

On page 2, please amend the paragraph contained in lines 1-14 as follows:

~~By the provisions recited in the dependent claims, advantageous  
refinements of and improvements to the circuit arrangement defined by the main  
claim are possible.~~ It is especially advantageous that upon the occurrence of a

voltage dip, the memory circuit with the flip-flop freezes the instantaneous logic switching state of the starting relay. This is because a voltage dip can mean that the controlling computer can no longer be supplied with sufficient energy. In that case, the computer switches to the reset mode, to prevent mistaken control actions. Only once the undervoltage has been eliminated and the computer has regained full control after the voltage dip, does the computer switch the locking circuit to inactive status again and can now resume the normal control mode for operating the starting relay.

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On page 2, line 25, please amend the heading as follows:

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Brief Description of the Drawings

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On page 2, line 30, please amend the heading as follows:

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Detailed Description of the Preferred Embodiments

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